

ELKO INTERAGENCY DISPATCH CENTER

News Release

**Monday, June 26, 2006, 5:00 p.m.
Suzie & Elburz Fires, Update #4**

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MULTIPLE FIRES GROW NEAR ELKO, NEVADA

Elko, Nevada – Large lightning-caused fires growing northeast and northwest of Elko.

The Suzie Fire, about 10 miles northwest of Elko, has burned approximately 40,000 acres in sagebrush and grass. I-80 west of Elko was closed for about 3 hours this afternoon and is currently open. The Mountain City Highway north of Elko is open. Heavy smoke continues to affect visibility in the area.

The Grayrock burned approximately 250 acres about 12 miles northwest of Elko and has merged with the Suzie Fire.

The Elburz Fire, about 10 miles northeast of Elko, has burned over 9,600 acres. River Ranch was evacuated and structure protection is in place.

The Sneekie Fire started this afternoon and is burning in the Red Springs Wilderness Study Area about 35 miles southwest of Elko. It is estimated at 2,000 acres.

One Type I and two Type II Fire Management Teams have been ordered for the fires and will begin arriving this evening.

A large array of fire fighting resources is currently on hand or enroute to the scene. Currently, over 300 people are fighting the area fires.

Acting Elko Interagency Dispatch Center Manager Gina Dingman commented, “We’ve got almost all of northeastern Nevada’s fire fighting resources on fires right now. We’re getting resources from other parts of the state and the Nevada National Guard. It’s critical that people are extremely cautious with fire and outdoor activities.”

Fire officials are asking people to be very cautious in this period of extreme fire danger.

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